

B.A.R.

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

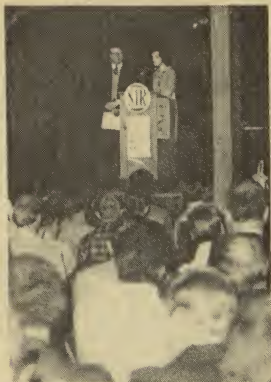
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BAY AREA REPORTER

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 5

JUNE 1 1971





William Edward Beardemphl

— comments —

DIANNE: THE GODDESS OF POLITICS

A handsome, meticulously groomed president of the Board of Supervisors, Dianne Feinstein, beguiled an overflow crowd of over 300 homosexuals at the S.I.R. Center on May 19. This exciting event demonstrated a growing desire of homosexuals to take a greater part in constructively influencing the political future of San Francisco.

When questioned by a member of the audience, "Why do you think so many politicians turn their backs on the gay community?" Mrs. Feinstein literally stopped the show with her pithy answer, "Poor judgment."

She also pledged that she would support qualified candidates for public office who were known homosexuals. Coming from one of San Francisco's most popular politicians, these positive political endorsements of the homosexual community show the results of many years of hard work on the part of numerous devoted members of our community working independently in politics, and collectively through such organizations as the Tavern Guild, S.I.R., C.R.H., and D.O.B.

Now our community can legitimate-

ly ask, when does San Francisco's largest minority, the homosexual minority, get its representative member on the Board of Supervisors?

Mrs. Feinstein readily admitted that she has much to learn about the gay community and some of this country's puritanical hypocrisies shown forth all too brightly in her answers.

"Would she legalize prostitution?" she was asked.

"No," she answered.

"Why?" members of the audience called out.

In a rambling rationale she tried to avoid political unpleasantness by questioning whether prostitution could be properly licensed, she pointed out that organized crime thrives on prostitution; that legalizing does not solve the problems that cause prostitution. In short, she left herself wide open for a political stomping.

When questioned on homosexual marriages, Mrs. Feinstein stumbled over admitted "bias" when she said marriage means different things to different people, that is highly subjective, that it is basically "an economic and social



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union for the purpose of bearing children" and that she would *not* support legalizing marriages for homosexuals.

There were some perceptive questions on taxes, the budget and administrative inefficiencies in our city which Supervisor Feinstein answered with a "political run-around". Because of the importance of this area, my next column in *B.A.R.* will be a discussion of this political hot potato; *The Political Follies: Taxes, The Budget and Administrative Excesses.*

A BLUE NOSE FRUIT FLY?

But, the reason for this meeting was to explore Mrs. Feinstein's position on pornography. George Mendenhall, editor of *Vector*, had publicly invited the president of the Board of Supervisors to explain her apparent attack on homosexuals in her speeches berating the showing of pornographic movies in San Francisco theatres and the selling of pornographic material in San Francisco bookstores. Mrs. Feinstein, through her adamant stand, has become a community symbol for anti-smut. The running bad joke in porno movie houses is to announce over a public address system, while a particularly spicy porno movie is in progress, "Would Dianne Feinstein please call her office, there are some important messages for her."

Mrs. Feinstein's lack of study and research on the subject of pornography, the political cross on which she is being nailed, is tantamount to future political suicide. Here are some of Mrs. Feinstein's thoughts from her address at S.I.R. concerning her feelings about pornography.

"Why I'm involved in it is largely because I had an occasion to take a look at what's happening in the city.

Obviously I have not made an in-depth study; too little time to do it. I have talked to a number of people. I have people who have taken a look and done some investigation for me, and what I see concerns me—concerns me not only because of the de-sensitization, not only because to some extent some of it makes a true mockery of the very meaningful things that are provided to this city by the gay community and continue to make their becoming more a part of the mainstream difficult, and partly because when we begin to see

something happening which is having effect on businesses, on young people struggling to grow up at a time when it's very hard to know what your sexual identification is, what your own individual morality may be, to find people with whom you can agree, to find sensitivity, to find enlightenment, to learn something about yourself—and we know it's tough in this country. We know we have a kind of hypocritical puritan ethic on which this country was founded. But I don't think the way this country should go is to exploit commercially those things about it which relate us more to the animals than to the human being."

The above quotation is typical of Mrs. Feinstein's twenty minute speech on pornography and is taken verbatim from a tape of the speech that she gave.

One of the stressed points of the Supervisor's presentation was the moral

pollution of San Francisco through the "poor taste" displayed in pornographic films and books. Most persons feel that they cannot presume to set any criteria on what constitutes good taste in pornography or any other sexual pleasure of other persons. Mrs. Feinstein says that we can and we must.

Many of us in the homosexual community had hoped that San Francisco's community standards had matured beyond such meddling into other persons life-styles. Certainly a creative political study can take into account the rights of individual self-determination and Mrs. Feinstein's worthwhile sensitivity to a gross moral pollution of San Francisco. Since our Supervisor-approved Vaillancourt Fountain's artistic pollution of San Francisco is limited to one area, perhaps the moral pollution of porno-prostitution, et. al. can also be limited to one area of San Francisco.



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of the publishers.

Friendly Fuzz

We are happy to report the apprehension of the murderer of one of our community. Several months ago Jackie, a waiter from the Trapp, was found strangled to death in his bed. Little or no clues were available. The police did not close the case as is generally suspected in matters of this nature. Two weeks ago the Kansas City police arrested a suspect in another gay murder, and with the co-operation of the San Francisco police and others found this suspect to be involved in thirteen gay murders across the country. We would like to thank the Homicide Division for their fine work in bringing this sordid episode to a satisfactory conclusion...

UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED THEY
WILL PICK US UP ONE BY ONE....

an editorial

Tavern Guild

The Tavern Guild of San Francisco is among the largest and strongest of all gay organizations, along with their serious endeavors for our entire community, they are also the city's largest party givers. In almost ten years of picnics, parties and balls, they have had not one single serious incident or problem connected with any function until their last picnic.

After many repeated warnings on the public address systems to stay off of a section of the surrounding property (due to an uptight neighbor) the police were called. As with all things, some persons did not get the message, and authorities apprehended several persons. They were charged with trespassing along with other assorted charges. We must realize that there is a time and place for everything, and many persons outside of our community still get upset with overly demonstrative public displays of affection and/or sex. We should take care to please rather than offend our uptight neighbors of the straight world. Knowing the Tavern Guild and its membership, we feel that the guild will work on this problem and strive to find a solution for the best interests of our entire community, as they have always done in the past.....

the editors

Sweetlips
Sez



How come Tony and Rome like Tanqueray Gin to clean their glasses!!

Lady James Pembroke Knockbride Callaghan from Auckland, New Zealand fell off his perch at the Kokpit, as she recovered her aplomb she flew off to Mexico.

A young aspiring empress contender asked Rattlesnake Reba the other day at the Tool Box for some advice on running—replied Rattlesnack, “A strong under arm deodorant would help.”

It isn't true that I answered the ad for a “foot fetish”—I sprained my ankle.

“The Hayloft Follies 71” is a must to see. It'll be at the Covered Wagon the



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5th and 6th of June, Sat. and Sun. A really worthwhile show to see.

As the accompanying photo shows—the Czarina of the Miracle Mile is right where she belongs.

Happy Birthday Don Dean.

Hope everyone had as good a time at the T.G. Picnic as we did. Really a blast!

In the next issue I'll have some info about the first Blood Mobile. This is a T.G. Blood Mobile that will benefit all members of the community when the unexpected happens. So please watch for when and where and all join in.

Had an interesting letter from Marion and Kay from “Main Street Bar” in old San Juan. They are getting lots of nice comments in regards to the T.G. Bar Calendar. Many people from Canada and New York go to San Juan and thence here. They contemplate coming here this summer and will attend a T.G. meeting.

Have you read—B.I.N. “Senate OK's Lady Bartender”, guess the Ex-Empresses will find employment.

Congratulations to the greatest lady of all—“Vi” from Vi's Drake Club in Fairfax— never misses a T.G. meeting

and sure can hold that brandy—now she's planning a trip to Tahiti— Oi Vey, stop in and say hello to Sut.

Don't forget the 3rd and 4th of July—“The Royal Scandals”. This is a show all must see—memories!

Seems as if Kim from Roman's in Portland is bringing a bus load of people down for the show—love you Kim.

Sunday afternoons at the Covered Wagon are really groovy—all kinds of fun around the pool—beautiful bodies and good food, Caught Hank from Page One there Friday, Wow!

My new map is getting ready to go to the printers—I have to delete five and add eighteen—anyone desiring to be located on the map please contact me.

Who is secretly trying to buy up “Folsom St.”! Now has three places and another on the way—a Folsom St. Tycoon!

Seems as if the Gangway is attracting the stars—Burt Lancaster was there last Thursday—I didn't know he was Lithuanian!!

Here's wishing everyone a nice Memorial Day Weekend—

Bye

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At the 'Magic Garden':

What? No Records?!

by Terry Alan Smith

STAR SPANGLED JUBILEE, produced by Vinnie Sommers, staged and choreographed by Allan Lloyd and Lori Shannon, musical direction by Al St. Claire, production costumes by Vic Potter, lighting by Bob and Russell. At the Magic Garden, May 14, 15 and 16.

When I was in high school, in the days of "live" local television, pantomiming was all the rage. With the flick of the channel selector, there was one variety show after another supporting a few individuals who would lip-sync the latest hit records. Or you could drop in on any high school variety show or record hop and there was another stage full, pantomiming to beat the band. But the surprising thing about it was that nearly all of them were very good. The lip-syncing was usually perfect and, in those more naive times, the public was impressed. What they didn't know, was how easy it was to do. Or maybe they did. And, I suppose, they weren't as impressed as they appeared to be. Because few of these performers ever made a soq at it and none of them were able to make a career of it. You see, although the public was having fun at the time, they knew the performers were simply exploiting the talent of the recording artists. A dear friend of mine was one of the few who *did* make money at it for a time. But that's because he had something more than the others. He did more than lip-sync, more than gesture with his hands. He pantomimed a comedy recording called *It's in the Book*, which was a re-telling of *Little Bo Peep* through the principles of logic, thereby decimating the nursery rhyme in the process ("...they'll come home, wagging their tails behind them. Did they think they'd wag them in front?!"). Now why did my friend make a living at it when most others couldn't? Because he added a talent of his own, thereby producing



ALLAN LLOYD

the full effect of the recording *and* a *personal* comedic insight in *visual* terms. He didn't just wave his arms and shake his head as he mouthed the words. He *became* the preacher. An imposing figure (6'-6½" and big-boned), he was donned in a black suit and bowler hat and he paced the stage with volatile impatience, like a gigantic mutation of a disgusted penguin. He pounded the podium with his fists to emphasize the lack of logic which infuriated him. He shook his finger at us with such outraged impatience at our naivete' that we thought it would fly off his hand. We could almost see the smoke pouring out of his ears and he was hilarious. We laughed so hard we could cry. So there it is: the degree to which the pantomimist is inventive is the degree which makes him better than the rest.

If you're so taken in by the *recording's* invention, you may not notice whether the *performer's* invention exists at all. But on May 14, 15 and 16, the *Magic Garden* gave us a chance to see the pantomime performer without the security of a recording. There he was: raw-self exposed—the ultimate test to separate the men from the boys (or the artists from the drag queens).

And what do you know! There's a genius among us! I knew it all along. When he pantomimed Nina Simone's *Forbidden Fruit* at the *Fantasy*, he created such a total visual image, I sat there and cried. Honest to God. His tongue darted out of his mouth like a little hand inviting us into his mouth for a new experience. He licked his index finger and slapped his extended, tightly-gowned hip with it and the connection was inescapable. Visual images with under and overtones, meanings upon meanings—a total visual communication that gave the song insights Miss Simone probably never dreamed of. I was overwhelmed. If you saw the show, but missed all this, I feel sorry for you. There is so much to be taken from, and enjoyed in, a true theatrical experience and when that rare occasion arises where a performer puts so much into his performance, we should be ready to sit up and pay attention. Or when a director does. This man also directed at the *Fantasy* and his direction was so polished, so professional, so absolutely right, we encountered theatre that nearly made us forget there was a tape recorder going. His invention, both in his performing and direction, was so phenomenal, he made many "Broadway" creators look pale. His name is Allan Lloyd. Don't forget it. See him once and you won't. At the *Magic Garden*, there he was "live" for the first time, with his talent as naked as a newborn child. He imitated Carol Channing, with the help of no recording, so accurately, I was stunned. I worked with Miss Channing, in *Hello, Dolly!* for 2½ years and I know. I don't know whether Mr. Lloyd knows Miss Channing or not. If not, he's certainly done his homework. (On his exit, as Miss Channing, he walked into the proscenium and the accuracy of that business alone convinced me of Mr. Lloyd's seriousness as an artist.) Mr. Lloyd also sang "live". Now Mr. Lloyd cannot sing, but it doesn't make a bit of difference. His visual invention is so brilliant, you don't care (Vinnie Sommers is just the opposite: he sings so brilliantly, you don't care if he has little invention). If this sounds like a professional love letter to Allan Lloyd, I apologize. But it is.

Then there's Bashka. There is a small coterie of people who love her and I had

seen her once before: interjected into Michael Greer's last show at *Le Cabaret*. She pantomimed *Glitter and Be Gay* and, although her gestures were a bit ostentatious, I was impressed with her tongue vibration as she emulated Barbara Cook's high notes (What's so great about that, you ask? Perhaps very little. Except that no one else has done it. That's invention, is it not?). Then, at the *Magic Garden*, I saw her "live". She can't sing, she can't move without a recording supporting her feet and, although she had the funniest material in the show, she delivered it with a superior attitude and a helter-skelter of profanity which offended many of us. She didn't look like a lady (something I hadn't noticed at *Le Cabaret*), but more like a football player who tripped into a gown. I suggest she stay exclusively in the art of pantomime, for with the support of the recording industry, she appears to be very good.



VINNIE SOMMERS



LORI SHANNON

Lori Shannon is a pleasure to spend time with, because she always knows what the time is. She is a seasoned professional with a calculating mind. She's done her homework, too and knows that can work and how to do it. She doesn't take drag seriously, but most certainly takes performing seriously. She knows how to be a beautiful, imposing drag, when to raise a finger at the moment it is expected, what you want to see when you want to see it. She can't sing a song like *Cabaret*, so she doesn't try. She skips along the notes, ignoring each one as soon as she's acknowledge its presence. When she does a song like Comden, Green and Plevin's *Thanks, But No Thanks*, she's fine. It's a lyric song, you see, so she doesn't have to ignore the notes. They ignore her. She plays with the lyrics and the song works. It's a secure feeling for an audience when they know the per-

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former is secure and, like Merman, is always a step ahead of everything that's going on.

Vic Potter's production costumes are brilliant. I didn't expect so much showmanship in a three-day-only production. I wish I could say the same about his solo dance, but though it wasn't bad—it really wasn't—it was sort of a background to re-order drinks by.

The Dapper Dans were male, in male attire, showed no professionalism whatsoever and looked like a couple of grocery clerks on a dare. I kept thinking, "What are *they* doing here?" and "I wish they weren't."

Technically, the show looked good, the lighting was fine and Al St. Claire kept up with the erratic "live" performances like a master. The choreography by Allan Lloyd and Lori Shannon was knowing parody, done with utter seriousness and control. It was a delight.

I'm sure, for some, it took a great deal of courage to work "live", but the very effort made it true theatre. Now they know, I hope, that with the necessary invention, they can throw their security blankets away and stand on their own, two high-heels.



Imperial Bullsheet

DAY BY DAY THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE GROW.

Those who were not present at the meeting with Mrs. Feinstein, certainly left themselves out ...If you do not wish to know where your representatives are ...and who they are ...we have only pity for you. ...S.I.R. and the involved people, and the involved organizations of our community, have brought us a long way. They want our support, they deserve our support. Let's give it to them.

Miss Gilder-Who? My dear, you have opened a box that we really did not feel needed opening, but since it is opened publicly, we feel it is necessary to make a statement on the subject.

We have accepted the fact, that some in our community will go to any length to push themselves. They will push until they have a self gratifying situation. It is a fact, where there is a split, where there is dissention, where there is inner turmoil, this is where they shine. They cannot function for our community in a situation where there is togetherness, peace and harmony. They can only function where there is petty bickering and jealousy. They will campaign long and hard to create this situation.

In a period of turmoil, a person of this nature, can get away with murder. They can lie ...They can cheat ...They can steal ...They can do all this, and still be, a so-called star. That is if there is enough dissention.

If, my dear, you and our community take these facts into consideration, we can put together a groovy, growing, beautiful situation, which can become only *gratifying* to this *the queen city of the world*.

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WORLD BOOKS J. D. MILLER
OF

THE STALKER by Bill Pronzini. Random House. \$5.95

This is a suspense novel by a San Franciscan and set in the San Francisco area. But the initiating action occurred eleven years previously in Illinois. Six young men there, awaiting discharge from the Air Force, concocted a perfect holdup of an armoured car and carried off their plan so successfully that they were never caught. Yet, eleven years later, within one month's time, three of them die accidentally in various parts of the country. The remaining three were living in the San Francisco area, and one of them had followed the movements of all over the years, although there had been no contact between them. As self-appointed leader, he warns the remaining two just as their stalker arrives in the area.

The scene is set for a classic chase thriller. The variety of Bay Area landscape from Los Gatos to Petaluma and over the hills of San Francisco is, and again will be, the setting of this future motion picture. All of the elements for suspense are in this story. There is the successful operator who is unwilling to lose all he has built up from his share of the loot. There is the quietly alcoholic loner who has never been quite comfortable concerning his share in the youthful criminal escapade. And there is the unmanly failure sliding into cowardly apathy. And above these last three is the unknown stalker who knows more about the remaining three than they themselves know. All the ingredients to keep the reader awake beyond bedtime make this an engrossing tale.

THE WRONG PEOPLE by Robin Maugham. McGraw-Hill. \$6.95

Once again Robin Maugham has produced a novel where the suspense is strongly based on the psychological manipulation of people. He started this with his first book "The Servant", and hit the heights with "The Second Win-

dow". Somewhere in between he wrote this book, and it was published in England under a pseudonym. It is rather thinner of content than the very strong "Second Window", but still remains a very tense tale of moral wrong doing.

Arnold Turner is a teacher at an English approved school, which is rather like being a teacher in a reform school. He is homosexual, but he has never quite dared to do anything about his proclivities. And, although he knows these too well, he is not about to mention them to anyone else. He would like to indulge himself, but never having done so, he feels that to do so would be wrong.

The setting of the story is Tangier, where he takes his holiday. International Tangier has always been reputed a place of sin and permissiveness, and certainly, being away from home, the possibilities of Tangier loom rather large. But, since he does not quite dare, nothing happens. Everything is very low key until he is befriended by an Anglo-American self-exile who picks Turner up in a bar of dubious repute.

It is very easy for his mentor to see completely through Arnold and to make it easy for Arnold to do exactly what he most wants to do. And, having made the transition out of his closet, Arnold is only too eager to continue in his new-found vein. His mentor assures him that this is indeed possible, and carefully springs the trap by telling Arnold exactly how this may be accomplished.

The plan is so simple and so much for the betterment of all concerned. It is an easy plan to accomplish. But it is a plan whereby the lives of others are manipulated for them. The moral question arises, and with it comes second thoughts. Once away from the exotic background of Tangiers, the real weather of English thinking asserts itself at exactly half past too late. But in a moral tale it is never too late, and there is always time to make an even prettier pickle of the entire situation. Decision lies always ahead. Now all anyone has to do is to read it and see if anyone actually gets away with anything.

THIS-a & THAT-a

by Lou Greene

Dear dear Reader:

Can you imagine some dizzy publisher calling me at 5 p.m. asking for my column for this evening? Honestly, if you asked my psychiatrist, he would probably say I was a Masochist for putting up with this, but if you ask me, I guess I would say I'm just plain nuts and like to be in the lime-light, so here goes. The Tower Lounge will be holding their First Anniversary party on June 16th and 17th. ...The Mistake will be having their Anniversary Party on June 17th. ...I attended the Star Spangled Jubilee at the Magic Garden and caught their all live show (no mime). The 9:00 o'clock show was not too well attended and worse, the sound system was on the blink. I would say that some of the entertainers should stick to recorded mime. Sorry I can't give a fair review of this show as there were too many handicaps. I understand the shows on the following night were under better control. A better audience, a repaired sound system, and a better performance. Shirley the III sat a table away and addressed me as Mr. Fido. (I didn't know we were engaged). ...Bobby Allison of the Trapp is having a Birthday Party June 6, at the Golden Door on Ellis St. I'm sure all of his friends will want to wish him well. ...The Galley held their grand coronation affair. Reina Santa de la Cruz truned her crown over to Richard Aguellar Reina III. Reina II was then made Queen Mother of San Jose permanently. Altho Crystal was able to attend the affair in Portland, he was unable to do so in San Jose and sent Perry as his emissary. Perry incidently was crowned Grand Duchess of San Jose. Jose was in attendance with his court, Gabriel was surrounded by her lovely court of sex symbols, and all in all I must say the coronation was well done. I feel the only mistake was not holding this in a hall that would properly accommodate all those in attendance. ...There have been many comments made, pro and con about all the regal functions going on, proper, improper, right, wrong and etc. I personally can-

not get involved with these matters and can only add that if the Masons and the Elks and other fraternal organizations can hold court in all of their splendor of fancy dress and parade, why can't we do the same without beingensored within our own. ...I have received not less than three phone calls to dish the dirt about the contenders-to-be for Empress VII. Unfortunately it would be unfair for me to make mention by inuendo or otherwise what or who these contenders are or did, as this would automatically disqualify them. However, when they have been officially announced then perhaps I might be able to open a few closet doors, whoops! ...Jose has dug up his dusty version of South Pacific and will be performing at the Jug O'Punch on Mission Street sometime the early part of June. ...Wish I had the dough to attend all the shows coming up the first part of June. The Hayloft review at the Covered Wagon. This is a must for everyone. Perry will be appearing at the

Village with the Vector boys, Jay Sutherland, Fred Howell, and many more. I previewed the show at the Bayou in Redwood City. The audience response was really great. I hope the group will polish up a bit more before appearing in the city as this could be a very good performance. Charles Pierce and his group will be appearing at Bimbo's. I think his name speaks for itself. ...Dianne Feinstein's night at SIR was held to an over capacity crowd. I'm sure you'll read more about this question and answer program in other parts of this paper. I must say she had an answer to all the questions and even those questions which were unfair to ask, such as what do you think of Gay-Marriages? What in the world does this have to do with her political position. My hat's off to you Dianne for being able to fend for yourself. The standing ovation received was evidence of her well wishers and future votes. ...Stopped off at the Magic Garden for their Mexican Dinner and ordered the Combination Plate. This is one of the few times I ate in one of our restaurants where the plate was properly heated and the food was really hot. I strongly suggest you try the Combination Plate and can assure you, you will

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FOR GOOD TIMES

PAGE ONE

FOR GOOD FOOD

PAGE ONE

FOR GOOD DRINKS

PAGE ONE

FOR GOOD ENTERTAINMENT

PAGE ONE

FOR GOOD THINGS TO MAKE YOUR VISIT MEMORABLE

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SAN FRANCISCO



not be disappointed. The food was so tasty I had to inquire who the Chef was and upon further inquiry must choose him as the Chef of the Week. May I present Barry L. Uhrich. Only 28 years old, he came to S.F. from Allentown Pa. He worked there as second cook at the famous Pennsylvania Inn; so cooking is not new to him. He loves dogs and has the cutest mini Daschound named Schnapps. He likes Body Building, Skiing. (Barry, not Schnapps) was in the Navy for four years and came to S.F. after a three month tour of Alaska. Barry recently took over the kitchen and decided that cleanliness and quality food can work together. All his food is prepared to order. He is very personable and his greatest weakness is his fear of earthquakes. Well, let's hope he doesn't have to witness any here. ...Well, I'm off to the Tavern Guild Picnic this Sunday and will try to get a little rest in advance so I'll enjoy the day. ...I would like to close with these words. San Francisco has developed a strong homophile arm in this community only thru the combined efforts of organizations like the Mattachine, SIR, and the Tavern Guild. Any steps taken to divide the unity of our present group can only lead to disaster; and quoting from my fellow writers United we are strong, Divided we can be picked off one at a time. Peace.

LOCO WEATHER REPORT

By Cecil Knockorworst Weatherbee

According to local late T.V. weather reports temperatures should be fluctuating since Gay Lip received all their thunder . . . meanwhile another freak storm hit lower Bay Street while dark clouds continued to linger over Union after a short spell when it hovered over the Peninsula, but, that's common in San Francisco, dark clouds don't always make a storm . . . Larkin Street showered in Gay celebration . . . Florida received pennies from Heaven and Haight blossomed all over (it must be true that April showers bring May flowers) all is tranquil on Lombard . . . all is tranquil on Valencia???? . . . The Tenderloin always vibrates gayly and otherwise. . . Polk and Folsom are both going thru climatic changes (It would be interesting to be observant of the humidity) how does that song go "The Stars at Night are Big and Bright" . . . By the way that impending storm at California Hall passed by, that's what they call a phenomenon . . . The whirlsmog is still moving about causing minor disturbances, but, in this period of time one puts up with smog . . . Maybe Ecology will take care of it which reminds me "United We Stand, Divided They Will Pick Us Up, One By One." (I missed it in the last issue). . . Calm weather is in forecast for the next few weeks, warning flags will be down and again making it ideal for cruising . . . astronomers and telescopic enthusiasts will have an exceptionally enjoyable quest as sun basking gets in gear, but beware of impending storms after the calm spell . . . I hope the June bride finds his pad, Enjoy.

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SIR

COME ALONG WITH US

Another beneficial community service that is being performed by S.I.R. is their Wednesday luncheons for Senior Citizens. The center is turned into a lunchroom on this day and between 75 and 100 persons attend. The lunch is prepared and served by volunteers. We attended last week, and were quite surprised by the turnout. The food was well prepared and looked good. After lunch the old-timers play bingo and everyone has a good time. We also understand that they have volunteer beauticians to cut and groom the ladies hair.

The attendees are quite aware that this is a gay function, and are tickled to get the attention.

S.I.R. needs, and deserves, help in this endeavor. They would appreciate donation of foodstuffs, prizes (small, for the bingo), volunteer workers and money.

It is heartening to see the contented look on the faces of these senior citizens, and S.I.R. deserves praise for their latest community endeavor.

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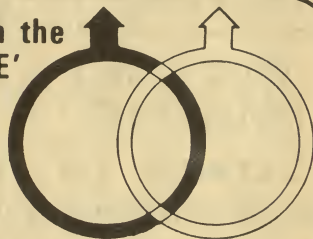
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de
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DIS-GRACE

I think that it is just a DISGRACE that SWEET-LIPS didn't attend Toties Grand Opening. Local 66 couldn't deliver her plaster in time.

I also think it is a DISGRACE the way that DIKI has to use those hot electric rollers in his hair being a beauty operator. One would think he could put a permanent in it or something. That way he wouldn't have to do it twice a day.

I also think it is a DISGRACE that Don of FEBE'S would try to sell a CZARINA'S wand at a certain auction while said CZARINA was in the ladies room. It almost didn't work when I got it back. It seems he used up all the power.

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I also think it's a DISGRACE to see our EMPRESS, CRISTAL running around in those LEVIS with the bleached imprint. I think I'll buy him a new pair.

I think it's a DISGRACE that SWEET-LIPS sprained her ankle so as not to have to be in the RUBY KEELER number of "The Royal Scandals". I think Jim Bonko should replace her.

I think it's a DISGRACE that a certain doorman from a very prominent after-hours club should have to make movies with a certain film extra from another paper.

I think it's a DISGRACE that Ray Rule doesn't think his pool is big enough so he is buying up all of FOLSOM Street. I think now he'll be so busy that the pool just might dry up.

I think it's a DISGRACE that Jeff turned from leather to a DRAG QUEEN so fast and so well.

I think it's a DISGRACE the way that Henri Leleu and his membership committee fought to keep three prospective members out of the Tavern Guild and after these three individuals were voted in by a large margin, he then stated how marvelous he thought it was since they were all personal friends and had been for years.

I think it's DISGRACEFUL that the RIFF-RAFF'S business is so good that by the time we got there for dinner they had run out of food.

I think it's a DISGRACE that none of the MALE members of The Board of Supervisors dare venture into a S.I.R. meeting. Yet the courageous DIANE FEINSTEIN comes there and has a ball.

I think it's a DISGRACE how sweet SHIRLEY has been since being named to CRISTAL'S court. She hasn't had a bar brawl since.

I think it's a DISGRACE that VOO-DOO is still unemployed. Especially with her new hubby.

I think it's a DISGRACE that JOSE is no longer starring in Opera. But now pushing putty in windows.

I think it's a DISGRACE that Grand Duchess of the Peninsula, Billie Diamond won all of our money on the way back from Portland, cheating at Black Jack.

United we stand, divided they will pick us up one by one.

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ASTROLOGY by El Scorp

Jumping Gemini

We are now in the Sun sign Gemini, the sign of the twins, and the zodiacal sign second-most maligned after Scorpio. So many people simply cannot stand a Gemini. He is dual, and he is not very faithful, and he changes his mind even while always being right. In fact he cannot keep his mind on one thing at a time or pay attention to one person at a time to the exclusion of all other people around. He somehow gets all the right answers for all the wrong reasons.

But Gemini is a mental sign, ruled by Mercury, and there is no reason why a mental sign should be as bad as all that. Perhaps it is that Geminis so often have to deal with self-centered people, or with people who achieve mentality only by real perspiration up and down the paths of logic. Airy Gemini comes along and finds the very thing that ought to be done and does it even more quickly if there is any state of emergency about the situation.

The Gemini, uninfluenced by other placements in his chart is fast of hand and very adept. He is aware of everything going on around him. He is the life of the party, can follow two or three conversations, seems to know everyone there, and does not miss anything going on around him. Everything reminds him of something else. He is impatient to wait out the overdrawn argument, but must break into the conversation and answer any proposition step by step along the way. He does not permit himself to be overwhelmed by the totality of anyone else's complete argument.

Gemini talks and Gemini gestures as he talks. He is very vocal, and he does well where communication is important, in writing, speaking, advertising, teaching, or simply in meeting people, for he loves people. He is at his best commanding a group. He is fortunate and completely human. His airiness is somewhat spiritual, and, although his pleasures are masculine, he is not especially interested in procreating, so that his off-spring are mental rather than biological products.

Gemini is worldly, flexible, diffuse. He is a walking, talking, thinking and disposing person. His most natural compliment is the Sagittarian who himself loves freedom and so will not take away Gemini's freedom, who loves travel and so will not make Gemini stay put, and who gives aggressiveness to the airy abstractness of Gemini and so meets him on almost equal ground. Gemini has the magic of being on two or more planes at once, and often he may have some gift of prophecy. An intellectual gift is always welcomed by Gemini, but if you have to give him a tie or other wearing apparel, blue and silver-gray suit him, and orange is very often a favourite darning color.

Into the Gemini area falls the long weekend of Memorial Day. Once Friday is past, Venus and Jupiter, the two most beneficent influences in any chart, have full sway. Venus eases situations, and Jupiter increases. If things are fine and easy for you, they will become even finer and more easy. But if things are just a little sour, they might get even moreso. Be watchful of trends and tendencies and look before you leap.

B. A. R.



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ARIES: Friday is an excellent day, fine for finishing up what needs to be done, and for going on to pleasure and romance. Saturday accents fun with younger people, but irritations come on as the day grows. Be cautious of expenses in the evening. Sunday is a good day, but again a not so good evening. Use Monday for recuperation.

TAURUS: During this Gemini period thoughts of money are bound to be of greater importance to you. You will probably not go out on much of a limb even on Sunday when you will be slightly limited. Friday you may return from or take a short trip. Probably return, since Friday's influence is around the home, and this lasts through Saturday and Sunday. So settle things there, and be impersonal on Sunday. Monday is really your best day for surprise gains, but romance may have to wait.

GEMINI: This is Gemini time, time to work out the future and to lead the pack. Use your head and do not push too far, too fast. Just because you can take it does not mean everyone else can. Friday is a good business day. Friday evening and Saturday may be devoted to short trips or activity right in your home neighborhood. Saturday evening does not promise too well. Touchy people. Sunday keep your own counsel and lay for the day. Monday is a good time to defer to others and spend some time with your own special interests.

CANCER: Friday is an especially good day for all your favourite doings. During this period you are probably going to be aware of your limitations and past mistakes. But your weekend interests are going to center around putting your financial situation straight. Be particularly careful of money on Saturday, and also on Sunday. Monday things in your environment a little bumpy, and it will not help to get off for a short trip for the day. So stick around home and pour oil on troubled waters.

LEO: The Gemini period should be fine for all dealings with friends or business income. You can do a great deal during the day on Friday, and in the evening you really take matters in hand and lead the way. This will proceed through Saturday, if you avoid negativity and excess emotionality. Keep your attitude smooth through Sunday and defer to elders. Monday will

require much tact in dealing with friends and in the handling of money.

VIRGO: During this period your interests are going to be business oriented. Friday business will take a personal touch, but in the evening consider your own problems and come to your own solutions by yourself. Take it easy on Sunday as well as on Saturday. This should be a quiet weekend for you, and you have to keep your attitude more positive on Saturday. On Sunday your health may suffer through your own undoing. Monday is good for your gain as long as you can maintain your steady equilibrium.

LIBRA: This is a mental period for you. Devote Friday to business, but in the evening join with old friends and acquaintances and enjoy social living. Saturday carries this over very nicely but for some danger of little arguments late in the night. Sunday is your day to take care of yourself and your own problems, the solutions to which may easily come on Monday, which will be the best of these two days for you.

SCORPIO: This Gemini period is a great time for Scorpio to display resourcefulness and restore himself to health. This is a physical period. This starts out as a working weekend, and is a good time to devote to pushing your own career interests. This carries through Saturday and even Sunday. Of course this does not mean that you cannot go out, but you are better off at home accomplishing things. Sunday is good for displaying all your better traits and abilities, and when others are not too responsive on Monday, your own handling of yourself can make a pay off possible.

SAGITTARIUS: Any attention you devote to partnerships and teamwork and your relationships with other people is sure to pay off well for you during this Gemini period. Devote Friday to business during the day, but the evening may bring weekend guests or news of distant people. It should be relaxing and pleasant. The same influences should operate through early Saturday, but as the evening wears on, your plans may change. Go along, however, as all influences are fine. Mind your business on Sunday and work if it comes your way. As long as you can keep your eye on the birdie, Monday

will follow through in pleasant fashion.

CAPRICORN: The job and the salary are important to you at this time. You may even be scrounging around for ways to improve the money flow while yet doing all the things you would like to do. Friday is good for those close to you, but go easy on the money angle in the evening. Get organized on Saturday and really plan and consider your own self from all angles. Carry this through on Sunday. Make no new plans on Monday, sticking best to those resolutions you should have formed during the weekend. Try to work to some purpose, especially work to avoid disappointment.

AQUARIUS: The Gemini period is going to be a creative period for you. It should also bring some pleasures and even romance. Get the work out of the way on Friday so that you can go off with someone close during the evening. A change of scene will do you good. Be pleasant and peaceful-making on Saturday and if you keep on your own even keel, so will the world around you. Sunday continues to depend on your attitude for being pleasant and sympathetic to those around you. Take good care of yourself on Monday and indulge yourself in your own special interests.

PISCES: Your home life is of great interest during this Gemini period, but this could also bring an end to a situation which has long existed around you. The weekend starts out pleasantly enough, but it will be mostly a service weekend, one where you find yourself helping out the other guy. Take good care of your health on Saturday, for if you are not feeling too good that day and Sunday, Sunday especially will seem rather devastating. Take care of yourself on Monday to bring you out of it as best you can. Devote yourself Monday to home cares and plans for furthering your future.

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AN EVENING OUT

An evening out in this city can, in the lightest or truest sense of the word be a veritable Gray Line Tour and of course must always be done in chapters or regions or as the court sometimes says, Provinces. After the last TGFS meeting, I almost felt as though it might turn into Provinces. But, alas, all was smoothed out to the approval of all.

Our tour began this particular evening, with cocktails with the beautiful Barbara at the Early Bird. Barbara was her own witty self and if you weren't right on your toes, her quick quips could catch you unawares. A busier girl behind a bar one hardly sees any more. It is sure a pleasure to see one that at least cares.

My Gossimer wings had just been cleaned and pressed and I was just dying to try them out, hence, off we flew to join Dolores for Dinner at the On The Q.T. We were glad to see Danny back behind the bar after his accident? He and Chip are always a welcome sight behind one of our newest and I believe fastest growing bars. Dinner with Dolores was Devoon and the service groovy. Can't wait for a return bout.



THE EMPRESS?

Rome at the House of Harmony had the glasses all chilled for our after dinner drinks. This evening quite a crowd had assembled and as usual he kept us all entertained with aplomb. It's good to see so many friendly faces frequenting the good time places in our city.

Our schedule was almost as tight as my girdle and so off to The New Bell. I love this room. The warmth of atmosphere seems to grip you as you walk in the door. At least I think it was the warmth and atmosphere that gripped me. . . . of course it could have been Rick at the piano. It is a joy to hear a few rousing tunes emanating from his instrument. Dickie Dare Darling kept the ice tinkling and everyone seemed in a holiday like mood. I wish there had been a holiday near at hand to help explain the hangover type mood I felt I was beginning to think I might have and not be able to explain to myself in the morning when I found my aspirin bottle empty. "Keep your head Diki" I said to myself, there were still duties to perform.

Off to the P.S. where Jim Bonco, Jonni Valle, and myself were having a secret conclave preparing games filled with FUN, DANGER, MADNESS, AND DISEASE for the forth coming Tavern Guild picnic. Since you are reading this after the picnic, I hope the conclave was for naught.

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It seemed Totie was having a simple little opening. Nothing pushy mind you, but the food consisted of your own individual cow or pig. I mean really. In only moments I was in the corner with a scissor cutting away at my girdle screaming for more. Moments after gorging my tiny body, a vision appeared at the threshold of this sparkling new room. There was an immediate hush. One could hear a hair pin drop on the plush red carpet. There she stood in all her crimson beauty. SWEET LIPS! Was the alleged feud over? Was a blessing in store? The hush continued a moment longer and then cheers and howls and screams of glee could be heard all up and down Polk Strasse. She had done it again. It was Her Imperial Majesty, CRISTAL, in disguise. Beautiful blond curls spewed from the royal crown as she strode through the room beguiling everyone with her usual expertise for the unexpected. Sweet Lips never looked lovelier, and CRISTAL again proved that an Empress and her subjects can have fun and that CAMP is still and must be the name of the game.

Only a block away The Gangway was filled to overflowing. Willie and John were their usual mad selves, throwing out jets of musical joy as many sang or cajoled. If you haven't seen these two sparkling gems of madness, you've missed a treat.

The evening was waning and so was Triki Diki. Off to the Tower Lounge for a night-cap with Tony. There were quite



CRISTAL



AL CRISTAL TOTIE

a few fun people here too. I was glad to see this since there have been times when there weren't. It just goes to show you, when you put something handsome behind your bar people come to see and drink. Heaven!!!! I of course include Phil in that handsome, since without him, how could I have even been there?

Thanks to all of Polk Strasse for another Gala Evening Out. 'Till next time this is

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POETRY

SUMMER SWEAT

*Our legs entwined on a sleepless night
are the same to us
who wrap our fears in pressure
unlived
and your arms not noticed
around my chest hot
white unconscious flesh
are alone
and my white open eye
like your white unseeing head
reflect white light
in a grey halo
god like passing head lights
white on an empty street your vision
comes and passes with a blinking eye
blurring vision with salt tears cried
because I cannot sleep and I feel you
summer night sweat on my chest
and your legs entwined in mine*

Anthony St. Basil

ALL-MEN-ETTES

We caught another fun show
last Friday at the Orpheum
Circus on Market Street. The
group is called the "All-Men-
Ettes" and is a pantomime
production show. The bar is
well suited for an entertain-
ment format with a good stage

and more than adequate light-
ing. The show is lively and
fast paced. The costumes, all
made by the cast, are quite
good. We heartily recommend
the show to all. Performances
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SPEAKEASY

It seems like yesterday that the Speakeasy opened their dining room. We were at that time living on Potrero Hill, so we were very happy as prior to their opening there was no restaurant close to that part of the city. I have always liked the feeling that their dining has, even though you could not really say it's a great decor.

I understand that the dining room and bar are operated seperately, now they are also serving lunch. Dining there the other evening was not terribly exciting, we started with a creme of mushroom soup that was just fair, followed by a nice salad with mixed greens. My friends had steaks and I had the "Tempura" type prawns that were not cooked properly. So many times in the past I have really enjoyed this particular dish, that I always find it difficult to choose anything else. The service was hurried but good. I was a little disappointed in the appearance of the waiters, but if that is what the owners and management want that is their choice. I have had many more good dinners at the "Speak" than bad one's and shall be back again soon.

POTTING SHED GAZEBO

On Polk Street, the Avenue of Magic, The Street of Fascination, there is now one more little shop to enjoy. The front

is a flower shop with cut flowers and plants and false arrangements. In the back there is a wonderful little restaurant that serves lunch, with a beer and wine license and an Espresso machine. A delightful menu with many different selections, very nicely presented. The decor is really great, but some very talented fairy must have had something to do with this room. I hope on my next return that their apprentice program is complete and they have a waiter that knows what he is doing.

THE MINT

I had the pleasure of being invited to dinner the other evening, joining the cast of "Once Upon A Mattress". It was a late dinner and it was kind of the people at The Mint to run late to take care of these lovely people. Considering all the rumors about how the businesses on Market are suffering from BART, the place was very busy. Our dinner started with a dull and uninteresting soup but was followed by a great raw "Spinach Salad" at this time we were also presented with the little individual loaves of bread, baked fresh, a very nice touch. Danny our waiter, who for me, goes back many, many years as a fine waiter, suggested the Special Sliced Breast of Chicken over broccolli with a creme sauce, served in a casserole, and it was

great. Me and my big mouth, I had two lovely bites left, turned my back for a minute and zap Danny snatched my dish.

I am not sure what the reason was for their taking the wall down that was between the (then lounge and dining room) but it is down, it is hard to believe that some one has actually put a "pool table" in the middle of a \$75,000 (at least) bar and restaurant, but it's there. However, like I have said so many times if it works for them it's their business, as it was their choice, to make the changes that have taken place. And they seem to be doing very well. I would like to suggest though, that seeing as how you cannot put the wall back up, could you get someone to clean the chandeliers in the dining room.

COMMENT

Are you aware of the situation of straights in our gay bars and restaurants. In the old days when straights were in our midsts, they either were "A.B.C. Agents," "Vice Squad," "Trade, looking to roll someone", or in the case of females "A Fruit Fly". I am sure that most of us in the business being of a minority group would open our doors to anyone, regardless of race, color or sexual orientation. Now that it has become smart to have a few "gay friends" an awful lot of straights have entered our world, and found that we are really quite normal in our own environment. The restaurants get more of this kind of

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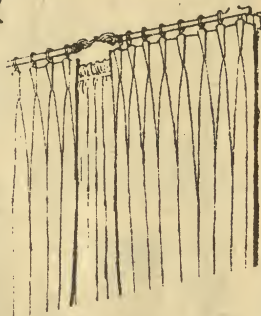
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play than the bars, which makes sense as they like our atmosphere, the service and of course excellent food at more than reasonable prices.

Most sophisticated people do not care for loud abusive, vulgar conduct, no matter where it is. However, would a straight be offended at the endearing terms that we use towards each other? When viewed in a gay establishment a fond embrace between two men, by someone who is not quite sure of himself, could be misunderstood.

I feel the owner or manager of a business that may be confronted with an altercation where gays and straights might be involved, has to decide where his loyalty lies. The straight even though they are truly welcomed must realize that the homosexual has been looked down on for so many years, we were forced to develop a world all our own, that world is made up of bars, restaurants, movie houses, private clubs, even our own dialogue. One time in the not too distant past, most of us felt that our world would always be a separate one. Since the "Social Revolution" it has become obvious that we have a

place in this world and the homosexual, I believe is never going to allow the clock to be turned back.

Therefore our brothers and sisters that find it difficult to understand or realize what it's all about, should try to remember that in their world we play their game, in ours we insist on being ourselves.

HORS D'OEUVRE

Congratulations are in order for "Maxine Weldon". She just cut a new record to be released in June. The title "Right On" music and lyrics by "Ruth Bachelor" and our own "Randy Randolph" with some new and some great old standards.

Have you seen the wall at the "Kockpit", well it was done by "Dan" from the "Left Bank" on Polk and as with most of Dan's work it is worth a trip to the "Kockpit" just to dig it. Speaking of that club, I hear our own "Sweetlips" is on crutches, poor dear. She just got over that black eye. Do hope she is able to write her column.

Don Banks from "Gold Street" was celebrating his 13th anniversary with

David at the "Fickle Fox" the other night, and a good time was had by all.

Sandy's Saloon is closed, he is off in Mexico somewhere. The Tavern Guild Picnic is this Sunday, how I do enjoy this event. Jose is back to jockeying shoes I hear, bless her, she never stays. Idol rumors have it that she is planning a production of "South Pacific" at the "Jug O'Punch" a new place out on Mission, the infamous Jo Benedict sometimes known as "Bloody Mary" is involved with this new club. You can see their ad in this paper. The San Franciscan's, a motorcycle club are planning an auction at the "Tool Box", and the money will be devoted to ecology. Look for the signs in your favorite bar. Their ideas are really together. "Carl Driver's" new book on where and what to do in S.F. is a great disappointment for me, and sure has a few tongues wagging. "Mattress" at S.I.R. was a big success. Next "Wonderful World" or "Sirlebrity Capades". Jay Sutherland "that two tons of fun and an unmeasurable amount of talent is involved in any number of things. He is going to be in "Perry's" show at The Village, has appeared or will be appearing at the "Bayou Lounge" and a new production to be announced soon also at The Village. "Norman Is That You" a new show in the planning stage, to be put together by the boys that did such a fine job on "Boys In The Band" at The Village. The pace is frantic at "Tycon's" on Lombard. Hot Pants at the P.S. Starting Friday, and the rumors about their back room are all true, A new show there is being put together. The "181", oh what memories that club holds, nice layout, and a great stage, if you like Pat Montclair that is where she's at. Have you seen the "Nudes" at the "Libra" and the "Saturnalia" it may not be your bag but you be the judge. That wild, mad, unreal, not to be believed "Covered Wagon" is going strong. "The Ramrod" on Folsom is about to have its face lifted. And the "Royal Scandals" are scandalous. The only trouble they're having is with the billing.

Enough—how on earth they are going to get all this in that tiny little paper is beyond me, but from here on that's their problem, I'll die if they leave out one single line.

Bye
Love, Millie

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TWO ON THE AISLE by Jay Noonan

News and Views of the Rialto

A pall of gloom seems to be hanging over the *Curran Theatre* where Father Knickerbocker is having a hard time establishing himself. Sources say Mr. Lancaster should at least get an "E" for Effort. It must be difficult for Burt—hearing all the "bravos" and applause next door at the *Geary* (and from a repertory company at that!) while his company never gets a second curtain call. Maybe if Mr. Lester and company (when in doubt, revive *The Great Waltz*) could choose a little more carefully on what shows to waste their money on.

Having nothing to waste but talent, Charles Gordone's *No Place to Be Somebody* still continues to pack them in at the *On Broadway Theatre*. This is sizzling theatre guaranteed to make hairs stand up on the back of anyone's neck. For a rewarding night, there's no better theatre fare in town.

MANHATTAN MERRY-GO-ROUND

While Elaine Stritch is heading West to join the National Tour of Hal Prince's *Company*, what big movie glamazonine is taking her place? Give up? Why, the beautiful Jane Russell, who should be super in toasting the ladies who lunch. Could be a whole new day for Jane, as she has good company for the summer season in "Fun City", with Ruby Keeler, Patsy Kelley (of *No, No, Nanette*) and Alexis Smith, Dorothy Collins and Yvonne De Carlo (of *Follies*) to name a few.

ri Ralston of S.F. theatre and nitery fame has been a whirling dervish around New York this past year. Teri, who has one of the leads in *Company*, has a great voice and is a knock-out on or off the stage.

Rita Hayworth, who was inked to do

Applause in July, suddenly flew back to L.A. and beautiful Anne Baxter flew East and into *Applause*.

More applause for the late David Burns, who won an "Emmy" for the old junk dealer in Arthur Miller's *The Price*. David was the original Horace Van der Gelder in *Hello, Dolly* and, before that, was the charm and wit to grace many a Broadway production.

Fortune and Men's Eyes, The M.G.M. film version, starring Michael Greer, has its World Premiere in New York on June 23.

SOUTHLAND MURMURS

As of late, theatrical activity in "The City of the Angels" has come alive. So, if you are journeying south, you might want to catch these few bon-bons: At the *Chandler Pavilion*, Katherine Hepburn is packing them in for *Coco* and it looks like quite a profitable run for all concerned. At the *Forum*, for Shakespeare fans, is the massive James Earl Jones in *Othello*. Shakespeare and Jones are no strangers to each other. There have been many Othellos, but when Mr. Jones is on stage, the effect is dazzling. For the lighter vein, *Liberace* once again is back at the *Ahmanson*, with sequins and this year's latest "Hot Pants". Lee gives you your money's worth and the Mr. Showmanship tag is not be taken lightly, as he is just that.

Moving up to Hollywood, at the *Huntington Hartford* is Neil Simon's smash, *Plaza Suite*, with Carol Burnett and George Segal. The combination of Simon and Burnett sounds like nothing but laughs to me. And if you miss this version of Simon's escapades at that famed hotel, don't miss the flicker version with Walter Mathau and company.

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WITH BRUSH IN HAND

Without a doubt, this has been one of the laziest weeks I have had in the city.

Met a Mr. Lem, a Chinese gentleman while having dinner at a friend's on Russian Hill and discovered that Mr. Lem is very interested in young San Francisco artists. He just recently returned from Taiwan where he purchased a group of pictures by a young artist of that area. Lennyoon, is the phonetic spelling. Works in watercolor and oil. The particular group of pictures I saw were all in watercolor with a distinct style. He affected highlights by erasing with a med erasure in textured strokes in all directions. His subject matter in this group of pictures (50 in all) were family type peasants in various activity. Ochre and sienna dominated most of the schemes.

What caught my interest in most of the studies were the apparent disattachment of the scenes. Which I guess is in line with the Oriental way of thinking. The textured effect of the erasure on the water color made each one have the appearance of a print, I really had to do a double take on most of them. I understand that this artist is soon to have a showing here in the city, as soon as the waterfront plaza is completed. Some

local gallery has already contracted his works for this show. So be sure and watch for this young artist and enjoy his unique techniques in the various media.

Stopped by the Bizarre, 242 Church, to see what was new on the used wall scene. Ken and Greigg are rather excited about their new addition. They worked 36 hours straight to get the shop next door painted, panelled and carpeted down for their obvious growing bubble. It looks well worth it, I might add. In the new window is a rose-diamond pressed covered compote, lime in color and about 13 inches high, turn of the century, in excellent condition, for \$65.00, and worth every dollar of it. (It's a good buy.) And for the oddity collector there is against the far wall, a two and one half foot, three sounce silver plate, over bronze, candelabra of three casted elephant heads with trunks extended holding candles. I believe, \$125.00. Late eighteen hundreds and in better than average shape. Needs a little work, but I understand that Ken is going to have it repaired if anyone is interested.

Also an oil by W.C. Ware, 18"x12", about 1928, and collected for \$40.00.

Stopped in and did a little investiga-

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tion at the Upper Market Street Gallery. The Rowe Collection of Plates is now in New York and is being considered for publication by a large and prominent firm that deals in art publications with European outlets. I was on such a trip at the time, I forgot the name, but will certainly mention it next issue.

Local photography and the art of Mr. Wylie Wong will be presented June the 7th. If you are interested in the effort of this Gallery, I suggest you phone or stop in preferably, and give them your name and address for their mailing list. It is definitely an active effort and the hosts are more than willing to be of assistance. I have yet to enter and not be greeted with a warm welcome.

On the "Nude" at Jackson's over the piano bar, I must make a more than casual remark. The question of the model has been brought up on several occasions and I felt that it would be interesting to ask the artist just who the model was. It seems that Mr. Tracy was on Market and one of the workmen on the new transit system was directing the boom on one of those lifts and Mr. Tracy walked over to him and gave him his card explaining that he would like to use him as a model for a few sketches or what have you.

He received an immediate yes, and Mr. Tracy started this particular trip. The model had an accident and sent his brother to the studio to see if he could be used while he was recovering. Mr. Tracy tripped over again and after two sittings, this one was busted for receiving stolen property. Being interested in the outcome, Mr. Tracy phoned the boys' home and was invited over. Mr. Tracy arrived and had dinner with the family, visited the brother, still recovering and the father became interested in what Mr. Tracy was doing and came over to his studio and ended up posing for the rest of the sketches he was working on. He was by this time completely involved with the family and executed five nudes from the sketches using a little of each of the family in the final completed pieces. Jackson's has the last of the five and the favorite of the artist. It all started on the muni or something.

This is all for this trip, see you next issue

A Casual Observer.

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Windmills of my Mind

Last night May 19th, I was pleasantly surprised and inwardly overjoyed at an evening at S.I.R. Surprised number one, since in this period of involvement or pseudo-involvement, because the crowd was less than I expected. I imagine I must have thought that everyone in our community would have been as interested in hearing what the President of our Board of Supervisors might have to say to our community. I might add she most certainly said it.

Number two, inwardly overjoyed, because I guess I felt she was going to come and tell us what she might have thought we would like to hear. But much to my surprise the wind was taken out of many a sail at the onset of her talk.

Many of our questions were answered in her brief but to the point introspection of herself and her ideas, motives, biases, etc. Politics? Yes. False flattery to us? No. She did feel that the GAY community has had a large share in making San Francisco the city it is today. Partially, this is why she feels some of the segments of our society (and I might add small segments) und

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much of the good done by the larger segments whose main interest is not necessarily self gain. Not even notoriety. Usually a better place for all of us, straight and gay, to live love and enjoy. The doers as I choose to call them, are never or rarely cheered or hearded but continue their work in self satisfying silence while many times the un-doers follow along behind and with silly public displays meant initially in fun, turn the doers' labors into a mockery of our entire community.

I love to camp as much as the next one and maybe more. I go in Drag on occasion and would hope I don't offend, but I can't say that I might not have on some of these occasions. But one can't see oneself and probably couldn't accept the fact that *he* might offend others since in each of our own minds it is always the *other person* doing the wrong and not *us*. We would hope that we are in that large segment I mentioned earlier.

I may not have heard anything shockingly new or earth shaking last evening. But I am taking a long hard look at myself. That part of me which should be doing something for (as Diane called it) the Main Stream. I don't know what it is yet, but at least I'm thinking about it. I would hope there are others too who attended who would also be thinking what they might add. If there are any constructive ideas or feedback on this, I'd sure like to hear it.

An evening with Diane Feinstein can sure be a shot in the arm if one doesn't let it die at S.I.R. When one can see that someone in government, and a woman has taken the time to try to understand many of the complex problems of a community which is basically alien to her, can't we begin to think how we can help ourselves. After all I'm sure she can't do it all. There must be something we can initiate rather than waiting for the next guy to do something.

Like Lincoln said once, "Everyone talks about the weather but nobody does anything about it." Let's do something, even if it is wrong, after all we could learn from our mistakes too.

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Charles Pierce

It is very difficult to write a review on this talented, witty, and very able entertainer without getting carried away with too many adjectives. It will be good to see Charles in San Francisco once again, and we are looking forward to his show. Happy to note also that Rio Dante will be back on the boards with Charles once again. We have certainly missed him.

We were able to catch the Charles Pierce Review in L. A. a few weeks ago. If the show he brings up here is as fast and good as that, then we are indeed in for a treat. WELCOME BACK CHARLES !

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Its branches strong with oak luster.

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Samson, fighting the Philistine
and every lurking shadow.

A knight of the golden dawn was I
with charger, armor shining, and oh so brave, so tall.
I strove, fought, clashed against another's foe,
in search of the Holy Grail.

Sinbad on mighty ship, Samarkand bound,
wet from the ocean spray.
Plainsman, clown, Indian scout.
Alexander, fighting on and on, comrades all.

From its topmost branches I was many, many things.
Things I dare not tell.
It was my majestic friend, full and warm, and kept
each secret I quickly whispered.

From trunk to summit I knew every branch,
and every whisper from wind caressed leaves.
Breathless it held me, to the wind.
Breathless it left me from sky to mother earth.

You my friend, oh mighty tree.
A tree once stood here,
on this hillside where I now stand.
A mighty tree it was, and if I close my eyes
it is still growing, strong and mighty,
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